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PETER H. KOSTMAYER
8th District, Pennsylvania

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

ACTION

October 17, 1980

Mr. Brian Atwood
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations
United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

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Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter from a constituent of mine, Samuel Snipes. He has taken the time to write me regarding his strong concerns about human rights abuses in South Korea, especially the case of Kim Dae-jung. I share Mr. Snipes concern over whether the U.S. is contributing to this situation by our continued military and economic aid.

I would appreciate it greatly if you could look into this matter. I will send a copy of your response to Mr. Snipes.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Peter H. Kostmayer

PETER H. KOSTMAYER
Member of Congress

bc. Samuel N. Snipes, Esq.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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LAW OFFICES OF
SAMUEL M. SNIPES
40 SOUTH MAIN STREET
P. O. BOX 256
YARDLEY, PENNA. 19067
215 - 493 - 3636

ASSOCIATE
RONALD C. KIRK

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September 18, 1980

Representative Peter H. Kostmayer
125 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: South Korea, Kim Dae-jung

Dear Pete:

I write to urge that the United States take all punitive action possible against the government of South Korea.

My anger is caused by the present government of President Chun Dee-hwan's persistent prosecution of and seeking of the death penalty of Kim Dae-jung.

I am further distrubed over all the past "Koreagate" allegations overthe past few years.

Although I naturally oppose the abrogation of civil rights that we assume is the basis of the North Korean government, I wonder whether life is much different in South Korea?

It certainly flaunts the concept of "human rights" which President Carter and Congress have admirably advocated as the cornerstone of our foreign policy.

With China slowly becoming our ally, I wonder whether South Korea really needs our 40,000 troops to protect it from a possible invasion from North Korea. It seems to me that China may exert enough influence over North Korea, to restrain any further invasions.

I am told that our military command actually supported the murder and inhuman treatment of civilians who, in a show of democracy, took over the administration of the city of Kwangju, last May.

I think all aid to South Korea - economic and military - should be immediately stopped. The Chun Dee-hwan government will otherwise interpret our continued support as agreement with its dictatorial policies.

With best wishes for your re-election.

Yours truly,

Sam

Samuel M. Snipes

SMS/tm

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